THE ROCKEFELLER INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

66TH STREET AND YORK AVENUE
NEW YORK 21, N.Y.

November 14, 1958

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Medical Genetics
School of Medicine
The University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am sending, under a separate cover, the reprints of our work with antigens and tissue transfers.

Most of the work was done with liver tissue because the earlier experiments with the blue dye protein showed such large amounts of blue material in the Kupffer cells. It seemed likely that this tissue would contain more antigen than any other and give us a better chance of demonstrating its presence.

In some of the earliest experiments we did transfer mouse mesenteric nodes. They gave positive findings as long as the nodes showed enough of the blue material to be visible to the naked eye. However, the nodes are so small and it took so many to make up half a gram of tissue for transfer, we did not continue to use them. The spleens show only very little blue material after two or more weeks following injection of the blue azoprotein; therefore, we did not use them.

As I mentioned in one of the papers, the mice used in the first work were much more sensitive to anaphylaxis than they were later after the breeding stock was cut down. I have never been able to get a good anaphylactic ear vascular reaction (EVR) since with so little antigen.

I am delighted to hear that you are attempting a genetic approach to the problem of antibody formation. The best of luck for your work and may I take this opportunity to congratulate you most heartily on your well-deserved Nobel award.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,

Philip D. McMaster

Philip D. McMaster

McMaster, P.D.